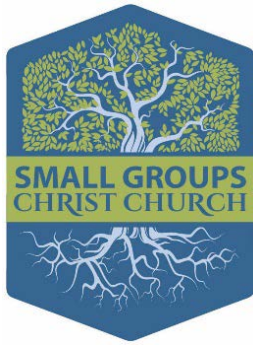


## CHRIST CHURCH SMALL GROUPS

The Sixth Sunday of Easter – The Week beginning May 25, 2025



### Read John 14:23-29:

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

**Background:** The gospel passage is part of the conclusion to the Last Supper discourse in the fourth gospel where Jesus speaks about his departure and, in that context, how he will remain present to his community. He has two gifts to the church: the Holy Spirit and peace. The Spirit is the one who continues the teaching of Jesus by keeping it in the memory of his disciples and does not introduce a new or additional teaching. Peace is the gift that enables them to remain in love with each other and with the Father—God’s Shalom.

### Talking Points:

- Give examples of how we “keep the word” of Jesus in our lives.
- To those who keep God’s word, the Father and the Son “will come to them and make their home with them.” Describe the type of home where God will dwell comfortably.
- If someone asked you to describe the Holy Spirit, how would you do that?
- Jesus is preparing the disciples for his imminent ascension into heaven. How do we cope with the emotional cost of losing someone to whom we were close? How do we help one another?

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.